

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the subject application. The Office Action of October 24, 2002 has been received and contents carefully reviewed.

The Examiner objected to Figures 1 and 2 as not being designated by a legend such as --Prior Art--. In response, Applicants' submit herewith amended Figures 1 and 2, which are now labeled "Prior Art". Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

The Examiner rejected claims 1-3, and 13-17 under 35 USC 102(a) as being anticipated by Applicants' Figures 1 and 2. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is allowable at least for the reason that claim 1 recites a combination of features including a conductive object detection pattern, wherein the conductive object detection pattern has a plurality of electrodes, the plurality of electrodes being alternately disposed. None of the cited reference, including Applicants' Figures 1 and 2 teaches or suggests each and every feature of the claims.

Moreover, claims 2, 3, and 13-17 are allowable by virtue of their dependence on claim 1, which is believed to be allowable.

The Examiner objected to claims 4-12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claims, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Attached hereto is a marked-up version of the changes made to the claims by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned **"Version with markings to show changes made."**

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully


requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. Should the Examiner deem that a telephone conference would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7371.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Dated: January 22, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Version With Markings to Show Changes Made

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Amended) An image detector, comprising:

a conductive object detection pattern, wherein the conductive object detection pattern has a plurality of electrodes, the plurality of electrodes being alternately disposed;

a light source for illuminating an object on the conductive object detection pattern;

a sensor for sensing an image of the object;

a power source selectively supplying power to the light source; and

a controller detecting a current flowing through the conductive object detection pattern,

• and in response thereto supplying a control signal to the power source to selectively supply power to the light source.